

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 06476 020607Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 INSE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 VO-05 /036 W
-----085098 021056Z /10

R 020525Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 969
INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI
AMCONSUL UDORN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6476

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, TH
SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: RTG STANCE ON POST-NOVEMBER
15 OVERLAND ARRIVALS

REF: (A) BANGKOK 6297 (NOTAL) (B) BANGKOK 5762

1. BURING THE MEETING AT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DESCRIBED
IN REF A, WE ASKED WHAT THE RTG INTENDED TO DO WITH
POST-NOVEMBER 15 OVERLAND ARRIVALS IN THAILAND. WE PAR-
TICULARLY CITED THE NONG KHAI DETENTION CENTER. IT
HELD 1209 OF THESE INDIVIDUALS AS OF FEBRUARY 14. INTERIOR
OFFICIALS WERE NOT RESPONSIVE TO OUR QUESTION.

2. WE HAVE MEANWHILE LEARNED FROM LESLIE A. GOODYEAR,
UNHCR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR WESTERN SOUTH ASIA,
THAT THE RTG HAS TAKEN SOME ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS ON
MANY OF THE INDIVIDUALS IN THE NONG KHAI DETENTION CENTER.
THE RTG HAD DECLARED 250 OF THEM AS BONA FIDE
REFUGEES, AND 150 AS INELIGIBLE. PRESUMABLY ALL 400
WOULD MOVE TO THE NAKHON PHANOM REFUGEE DETENTION
CENTER (REF B).

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3. GOODYEAR SAID THAT THE RTG WOULD ADDITIONALLY
PERMIT AN UNDISCLOSED NUMBER FROM THE NONG KHAI
CENTER TO REUNITE WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE UNHCR
SUPPORTED CAMPS. THIS LAST MOVE FOLLOWS UP THE MOI
APPROACH TO GOODYEAR MENTIONED IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH
OF REF B. IT REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLE RELAXATION OF
THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE RTG NOVEMBER 15 EXCLUSIONARY

POLICY.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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